

H. Res. 68

In the House of Representatives, U.S.,

March 11, 1997.

Whereas the Treaty of Mutual Cooperation and Security Between the United States of America and Japan is critical to the security interests of the United States, Japan, and the countries of the Asia-Pacific region;

Whereas the security relationship between the United States and Japan is the foundation for the security strategy of the United States in the Asia-Pacific region;

Whereas strong bilateral security ties between the two countries provide a key stabilizing influence in an uncertain post-cold war world;

Whereas this bilateral security relationship makes it possible for the United States and Japan to preserve their interests in the Asia-Pacific region;

Whereas forward-deployed forces of the United States are welcomed by allies of the United States in the region because such forces are critical for maintaining stability in East Asia;

Whereas regional stability has undergirded East Asia's economic growth and prosperity;

Whereas the recognition by allies of the United States of the importance of United States armed forces for security in

the Asia-Pacific region confers on the United States irreplaceable good will and diplomatic influence in that region;

Whereas Japan's host nation support is a key element in the ability of the United States to maintain forward-deployed forces in that country;

Whereas the Governments of the United States and Japan, in the Special Action Committee on Okinawa Final Report issued by the United States-Japan Security Consultative Committee established by the two countries, made commitments to reducing the burdens of United States armed forces on the people of Japan, especially the people of Okinawa;

Whereas such commitments must maintain the operational capability and readiness of United States forces; and

Whereas gaining the understanding and support of the people of Japan, especially the people of Okinawa, in fulfilling these commitments is crucial to the effective implementation of the Treaty: Now, therefore, be it

1 *Resolved*, That it is the sense of the House of Representatives that—

3 (1) the Treaty of Mutual Cooperation and Security Between the United States of America and
4 Japan remains vital to the security interests of the
5 United States and Japan, as well as the countries of
6 the Asia-Pacific region; and

8 (2) the people of Japan, especially the people of
9 Okinawa, deserve special recognition and gratitude

- 1 for their contributions toward ensuring the Treaty's
- 2 implementation and regional peace and stability.

Attest:

Clerk.